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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 392

By Boyer

A RESOLUTION to name a certain portion of US Highway 11W in Knox County in memory of former State Representative Loy L. Smith.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has seen fit to name certain public byways in honor of outstanding public servants whose meritorious efforts have redounded to the great benefit of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, State Representative Loy L. Smith was certainly one such public servant whose memory is worthy of special acknowledgment; and

WHEREAS, throughout his seven-term tenure as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1971-85, Mr. Loy L. Smith distinguished himself on Capitol Hill as a man of great wisdom and compassion, earning the universal respect and admiration of his peers; and

WHEREAS, Loy Smith's career was the very epitome of effective public service; during his service in the House, he was a member of the Agriculture, Judiciary, Commerce, and Finance, Ways and Means committees; and

WHEREAS, as a knowledgeable and popular state Republican leader, Representative Smith was well known for having sponsored numerous pieces of landmark legislation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was associated with the John Bailey Insurance Company, where he served with probity for 40 years in various capacities, including Vice-President; and

WHEREAS, Representative Smith was the son of the late Maxwell M. Smith, Sr. and Hassie Loy Smith; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith attended Carter Elementary and high schools in East Knox County as well as the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 18, Loy L. Smith volunteered to serve his country and was a valiant member of the United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, he served with absolute and unwavering dedication in the paratroopers and infantry, attaining the rank of Private first class; he was awarded the Good Conduct Medallion and was honorably discharged in 1948; and

WHEREAS, Representative Smith evinced his faith as an active and devout member of the Thorn Grove Christian Church, where he served as Deacon, Assistant Treasurer, and Superintendent of Sunday School; and

WHEREAS, Loy Smith served his fellow citizens of Tennessee with diligence, integrity, and efficiency that will not soon be duplicated, both as House Republican Leader and as Chairman of the Knox County Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, despite the many demands placed upon him, Loy Smith still found time to lend his time and prodigious talents to the Carter Optimist Club, the Odd Fellows Lodge, Sons of the Revolution, Pascal Carter Memorial Park Association, Thorn Grove Community Club, Knoxville Elks Lodge, Volunteer Carriage Club and the Tuckahoe Rabbit Hunters Club; and

WHEREAS he was also active in the Knoxville Jaycees and was a former Vice President of their chapter; in 1956, Loy's voluminous contributions to his community were aptly recognized when he was honored as the "Jaycee's Key Man"; and

WHEREAS, Representative Smith enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Lonna Rhea Smith; he was the proud parent of one daughter, Scottie L. Baxter; and three sons, David L., James L. and Jeffery L. Smith; and six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, for 14 years this man of integrity and impeccable moral character served the good people of Tennessee with distinction, putting aside personal concerns to further the cause of responsible government; and

WHEREAS, Representative Smith worked tirelessly in service of countless good works, not for profit, applause or acclaim, but rather for the satisfaction of knowing Tennessee was a better place to live as a result of his efforts; and

WHEREAS, his love and respect for the responsibilities and duties of his office will be long remembered by his colleagues and the many people whose lives he enriched; and

WHEREAS, the memory of State Representative Loy L. Smith should be appropriately commemorated because of his meritorious service to his country and to the Volunteer State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, SENATE CONCURRING, That the portion of US Highway 11W (Rutledge Pike), in Knox County, from its intersection with Love's Creek Road eastward to the Knox County-Grainger County boundary is hereby designated as the "Representative Loy L. Smith Memorial Highway" in honor of his stalwart leadership and praiseworthy service to his fellow Knox Countians and in tribute to his unwavering devotion to his family, his friends, and to all the people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation is hereby directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such portion of US Highway 11W as the "Representative Loy L. Smith Memorial Highway".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation and that one additional copy be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.